An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid of any one of claims 1, 3, 4, or 6, whereby H.sub.C or H.sub.N is expressed upon transfection of a host organism with said expression vector

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0081] It will also be known to one of ordinary skill in the art that use of the term "susceptible host" includes any such mammalian host susceptible to intoxication by BoNT. It will be further evident that any such susceptible host is a candidate for treatment to promote protection from BoNT utilizing the peptide vaccines and associated methods described in this specification.